



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 229

January Session, 2001

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1323

Senate, April 11, 2001

The Committee on General Law reported through SEN. COLAPIETRO of the 31st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE LICENSING OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE LAYOUT TECHNICIANS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (a) As used in this section and section 2 of this act:
- 2 (1) "Telecommunications infrastructure layout technician" means an
3 individual licensed by the Department of Consumer Protection
4 pursuant to this section, to produce telecommunications infrastructure
5 designs that comply with nationally recognized standards;
- 6 (2) "Telecommunications infrastructure layout" means the preparing
7 and producing of telecommunications infrastructure design and shop
8 drawings to be used for the installation, alteration or modification of a
9 telecommunications infrastructure; and
- 10 (3) "Nationally recognized standards" means the National Electric
11 Code NFPA-70, the ANSI/TIA/EIA 568-A Commercial Building
12 Telecommunications Cabling Standard, the ANSI/EIA/TIA-569-A

13 Commercial Building Standard for Telecommunications Pathways and
14 Spaces, the ANSI/EIA/TIA-570 Residential and Light Commercial
15 Telecommunications Wiring Standard and all other ANSI approved
16 installation standards or the equivalent thereof.

17 (b) No individual shall practice as a telecommunications
18 infrastructure layout technician unless the individual has obtained a
19 license from the Department of Consumer Protection issued pursuant
20 to this section. The department shall issue a telecommunications
21 infrastructure layout technician license as a pocket identification card,
22 of such size and design as the Commissioner of Consumer Protection
23 may prescribe, which card shall contain a photograph of the individual
24 to whom issued, the name and business address of such individual, the
25 license number and date of its expiration and the imprint or impress of
26 the seal of the state of Connecticut. Such card shall be carried upon the
27 individual to whom issued at all times when engaged in the activities
28 of the business, which card shall be evidence of due authorization
29 pursuant to the terms of this section. All individuals to whom such
30 identification cards have been issued shall be responsible for the safe
31 keeping of the same and shall not lend, enable, let or allow any other
32 individual to have, hold, possess or display such identification card,
33 and no individual shall possess, hold or display any identification card
34 or facsimile thereof, that is not duly authorized and issued by the
35 commissioner pursuant to this section to any individual who: (1)
36 Completes a certified communication designer program or a
37 community college approved program that assures industry standards
38 in telecommunications infrastructure design; (2) submits an
39 application pursuant to subsection (c) of this section deemed
40 acceptable by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection; and (3) at the
41 time of application, has held for not less than five years and continues
42 to hold a valid E, C, L or T license under the Electrical Work Board or
43 public service technician certificate of registration issued pursuant to
44 section 20-340b of the general statutes, or has other equivalent
45 experience and training as required under an E, C, L or T license. The

46 fee for a telecommunications infrastructure layout technician license is
47 one hundred fifty dollars.

48 (c) Each applicant shall submit a typewritten application for
49 licensure as a telecommunications infrastructure layout technician on
50 forms prescribed and furnished by the Department of Consumer
51 Protection. The applicant shall include the names and addresses of
52 three or more individuals familiar with the applicant's education and
53 work experience. The applicant shall attach to the application a recent
54 two inch by two inch color photograph of the applicant's face and
55 include a nonrefundable application fee. Such application fee is
56 seventy-five dollars.

57 (d) The Department of Consumer Protection shall notify, by mail,
58 each individual licensed pursuant to this section of the annual date of
59 expiration of such license. Each individual requesting a renewal shall
60 apply in the manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer
61 Protection. Such renewal fee is one hundred fifty dollars.

62 (e) Each licensee shall obtain a seal from the Department of
63 Consumer Protection. The licensee shall sign and apply the seal to all
64 documentation required by statute concerning work within the scope
65 of the telecommunications infrastructure layout technician license. If
66 such documentation is more than one page and bound together, the
67 licensee may sign and apply the seal to one page, unless such
68 documentation concerns filing plans for a building permit or
69 appurtenant structures where the licensee shall sign and apply the seal
70 to every page. No licensee shall sign or apply the seal to any
71 documentation that such licensee did not supervise the preparation of.

72 (f) If, after notice and opportunity for hearing as provided in
73 regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection in
74 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes,
75 the Department of Consumer Protection determines that: (1) Negligent
76 or incompetent work within the scope of a license issued pursuant to

77 this section is performed by a licensee; or (2) the licensee engages in
78 conduct of a character likely to mislead, deceive or defraud the
79 department or the public, the department may issue an appropriate
80 order to such licensee providing for the immediate discontinuance of
81 such negligent or incompetent work or conduct.

82 (g) Any person who is a professional engineer licensed in
83 accordance with the provisions of chapter 391 of the general statutes
84 shall be exempt from the licensure provisions of this section.

85 Sec. 2. (NEW) If a permit is required pursuant to section 29-263 of
86 the general statutes in connection with the construction or alteration of
87 a building or structure and working drawings are used for the
88 installation, alteration or modification of a telecommunications
89 infrastructure, no state, city, town or borough building official
90 responsible for the enforcement of laws, ordinances or regulations
91 relating to the construction or alteration of buildings or structures,
92 shall accept or approve any such drawings or specifications that are
93 not accompanied by evidence of licensure as a telecommunications
94 infrastructure layout technician licensed pursuant to section 1 of this
95 act unless accompanied by evidence of licensure as a professional
96 engineer in accordance with chapter 391 of the general statutes.

GL *JOINT FAVORABLE SUBST.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: Minimal Revenue Gain

Affected Agencies: Department of Consumer Protection

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation**State Impact:**

Estimated One-Time Revenue from \$75 application fee	\$3,750
Estimated Annual Revenue from \$150 initial licensure and annual renewal fee	\$7,500

Establishing licenses for telecommunications infrastructure layout technicians will result in a revenue gain to the Department of Consumer Protection. The licensure application fee is \$75 and the licensure and annual renewal fee is \$150. It is estimated that 50 people will seek licensure, thus a one-time revenue gain of \$3,750 ($50 \times \75) will result from the licensure application fees, and an annual revenue gain of \$7,500 ($50 \times \150) will result from initial licensure and annual renewal fees.

It is expected that any modifications to the automated licensing system necessary for a new license can be accommodated within the

Department of Consumer Protection's existing resources and will have no fiscal impact.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1323

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE LICENSING OF
TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE LAYOUT
TECHNICIANS.****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) to license telecommunications infrastructure layout technicians and prohibits anyone from performing such work without a license. It sets application, license, and license renewal fees; provides for DCP sanctions of layout technicians who are negligent, incompetent, or who mislead or defraud DCP or the public; and exempts licensed professional engineers from its provisions. The bill prohibits state and local building officials from approving working drawings or specifications relating to the installation, alteration, or modification of a telecommunications infrastructure if the drawings or specifications have not been produced either by a licensed layout technician or a licensed professional engineer.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2001

LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

To obtain a license, an individual must: (1) have completed a certified communication designer program or a community college-approved program that meets industry standards; (2) have submitted a typewritten application to DCP; and (3) hold at the time of application, and have held for at least five years, (a) a valid electrical contractor's, electrical journeyman, electrical line contractor's or electrical line journeyman license from the Electrical Work Board, (b) a public service technician certificate of registration, or (c) have the equivalent experience and training required of licensed electrical contractors, electrical journeymen, electrical line contractors, or electrical line journeymen. The telecommunications infrastructure layout technician license fee, and the annual renewal fee, is \$150.

APPLICATION

Along with the typewritten form, applicants must submit (1) the names and addresses of at least three people familiar with their education and work experience, (2) a recent two-inch by two-inch color photograph, and (3) a \$75 application fee.

LICENSE HOLDERS

A license holder must carry his license, which must include a photograph, license number, and expiration date, when practicing the trade, and may not allow anyone else to use it. The license holder must affix a seal, obtained from DCP, on all documents required within the scope of a technician's work. A license holder may sign and apply the seal to just one page of most multi-page documents, but must apply the seal to, and sign every page of, filing plans for a building permit or related structure. A license holder must not sign or apply the seal to documents whose preparation he did not supervise.

NATIONAL STANDARDS

The bill requires licensed telecommunications infrastructure layout technicians to comply with specific industry standards, such as the National Electrical Code of the National Fire Protection Association and the relevant standards set by the American National Standards Institute.

DEFINITIONS

The bill defines "telecommunications infrastructure layout" as the preparation and production of telecommunications infrastructure design and shop drawings to be used for the installation, alteration or modification of a "telecommunications infrastructure." The bill does not define "telecommunications infrastructure."

DCP RESPONSIBILITIES

The bill permits DCP to order a license holder to cease performing negligent or incompetent work if it determines, after a hearing, that the

license holder is doing so. Similarly, DCP may, after a hearing, order a license holder to stop conduct that misleads or defrauds the department or the public.

DCP must mail a notice of renewal to licensees and prescribe the renewal application process.

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 16 Nay 0